

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW

Is published EVERY MONDAY MORNING, at OTTAWA, Dominion of Canada, by GEORGE MOSS, Proprietor.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, strictly in advance.

TO CORRESPONDENTS:

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

Communications intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariably send us, confidentially, their name and address.

All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not be taken out of the Post Office.

Adjutants and Officers of Corps throughout the Provinces are particularly requested to favor us regularly with weekly information concerning the movements and doings of their respective Corps, including the fixtures for drill, marching out, rifle practice, &c.

We shall feel obliged to such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that it may reach us in time for publication.

CLUBS! CLUBS! CLUBS!

For the purpose of extending an advantage to the NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS and MEN of the FORCE, we have decided to send "THE REVIEW" to BATTALION and COMPANY CLUBS of TEN and UPWARDS at the rate of \$1.50 per annum for each copy.

Any NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER or PRIVATE sending us 15 names at the above rate, will receive a copy of "THE REVIEW" for one year, free of charge.

"THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW OFFICE,"
Ottawa, August 1st, 1867.



The Volunteer Review, AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, fence the law."

OTTAWA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1867.

FENIAN DISTURBANCES IN ENGLAND.

The recent Fenian disturbances in England present a strange phase in modern politics, and shew to what extent the wrong-headed perversity of ignorance can be driven by designing men who play upon the passions and prejudices of a portion of their fellows. As one unskilled in the use of a musical instrument can only make discord of the sweetest sounds, which the trained hand blends into gentlest harmony, so with the hearts and impulses of men, and it is an incontestable fact that the higher the object to be gained the more likely is it that they who attempt to guide the power which are emotioned to that end will by unskillful manipulation only produce confusion and discord. When a grievance exists, it is the duty of those who control the destinies of a people to seek the best means of removing it, for there is a doggedness in human nature

which clings to prejudice even though convinced of its injustice. Fenianism, the ugliest abortion yet produced by Republicanism and ignorance, would never have grown into its present power for mischief were the causes which gave it birth wisely and promptly removed. Political evils if not dealt with in time, are sure to work out their own solution eventually, but in such cases it is always in anger and convulsion. In bodies politic a sore may exist so long that it assumes a chronic aspect, and people become so used to it that they forget its inherent danger through the very fact being accustomed to it, and go on from day to day proposing remedies which are never applied till at last the evil assumes such threatening proportions that the political scalpel must be brought into requisition, and much suffering endured before a cure can be effected. Such is now the condition of Fenianism, and it calls for the most prompt and energetic measures on the part of the Government to suppress it, but at the same time means should be taken to remove the causes which first brought it into existence. This is an era of revolutions, there seems to have taken hold of men a restless longing spirit which seeks a higher object and a broader and freer life than was ever dreamed of in former ages; indeed it seems as if the ideal aspirations of poets were yet to find fruition upon earth and among men. It is this spirit warped, perverted, and distorted which has caused much of the misery of late wars and revolutions, and it is this same spirit, in its worst possible and most hideous shape, that gives life to the monster Fenianism; therefore to deal with it, so as to destroy its power for mischief, requires vigorous suppression which can only be used in the extreme case, and that successfully only when the wrong on which it exists is forever removed. It would be the most culpable folly to treat with anything but the most rigorous justice those men who are or may be convicted of taking part in Fenian riots. The assumed contempt with which the press and the public have regarded this thing has allowed it to grow and spread its ramifications through Ireland, England, and even some parts of Scotland, among that class of the population of those countries which underlies the lower strata of society; and its greatest danger arises from the recklessness of its members who, having no stake—nothing to gain by peace or security—delight in their aptitude for mischief. In riot and disorder is their hope of improvement according to their notions, and that improvement is merely the gratification of their individual lusts and passions. Of this the principals of this conspiracy are well aware, and they know well the tools they would use, but they are bunglers, and if they had power would be Marats, though fortunately for the country they never had nor are likely to have a Mirabeau.

Here in Canada where we have been made to suffer so much from this Yankee mongrel, the question assumes a somewhat different

shape, and can only be dealt with in one way, annihilation utter and complete to all who dare lift the front of Fenianism within our borders. In this there is no question of law involved, national or otherwise; an individual is justified in defending his life or his property when such are attacked, even to the killing of him who so attacks, and the same applies in the broader sense to us as a people. Such we are convinced are the sentiments of Canadians, and should these Fenians again cross our border they will do so only to demonstrate what we have written.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

The correspondent of the New York Army and Navy Journal writing from Montreal and Quebec, where he has been inspecting the interior economy of the British soldier's life in those garrisons, makes comparison between the British and American soldier, and forms the following conclusions:

"1st, From his (the British soldier's) term of service being more than three times that of ours, there is ample time to have him well set up and thoroughly drilled before he takes his place in his company and regiment for duty, and is in consequence more military in appearance than the generality of our American soldiers. . . . The system of drill is perfect, Thoroughly instructed drill-sergeants, with a fagelman, have the squads, and nothing can exceed the care bestowed by the instructors in bringing their men to perfection. There are also well constructed drill houses, sufficiently large to drill a company with comfort, and, protected as they are from the weather, there is no intermission to the progress of the incipient soldier.

"2nd, His dress is more showy, fits him with exactness, and he feels the soldier when in uniform. There is no miserable, slouchy flannel blouse in the British service to disfigure the person of the soldier, and engender habits of untidiness.

"3rd, That when the British soldier is dressed in uniform, he is well dressed; when on fatigue duty, he has an appropriate dress for the duty, which is used only during the fatigue hours, to be replaced with his handsome uniform as soon as the particular labor is performed.

"4th, In the matter of food, and the method of preparing it, the American soldier is far better off than the British. The former has more food, and it is far more invitingly prepared and served than of the latter, and, with the addition of a comfortable mess-room and table furniture.

"I have seldom seen, even at our remote frontier stations, fewer comforts in these particulars than I witnessed at the garrisons of Montreal and Quebec. There is as much difference between the kitchens and Barrack rooms described and those of our troops in the harbor of New York, as there is between the accommodations at the Fifth Avenue Hotel and those to be obtained at a third or fourth-rate hotel in your city.

"5th, The sleeping appointments of the British soldiers are better than with us, inasmuch as each man has his own separate bunk; but this again is marred to a great extent by the multiplicity of use to which his sleeping room is applied."

The remarks of this correspondent on the whole are pretty just, though he is out a little here and there in his information.